

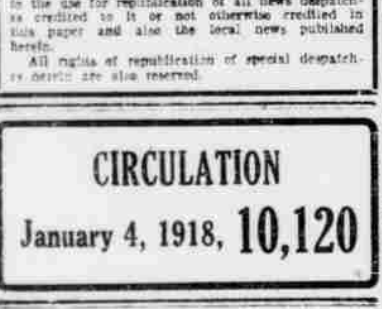
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CIRCULATION
January 4, 1918, 10,120



CONCERN OVER GERMANY.

Though reports continue to conflict, indications point to the fact that the German government has administered a defeat to the revolutionist forces in Berlin, which if not a crushing one is nevertheless important for the victors. By quick work it was the purpose of the extremists to get control and to prevent the progress that is being made toward an election of a constituent assembly. They had gained unexpected strength and possessed certain advantages but the throwing into the fight of the troops came at a time when it was a case where the German government must gain the mastery of the situation or quit and leave things in the hands of those who are supporting the reign of terror, and trying to give Germany a taste of what Russia is experiencing.

If the present government can continue to maintain its supremacy and prevent defection among the soldiers, who are being subjected to all the possible influences by the extremists, it bids fair to carry out its program of setting up a constituent assembly and through that provide a government which will be representative and which will be able to restore order. It is quite natural therefore that the allied nations should be watching the situation with keen interest and fully appreciative of the fact, though sides have not been taken, that there is great need of curbing the wild rule which has been threatened. There is nothing in the policy of those who are trying to get control through terror which can appeal to the allies but rather are they desirous of the establishment of a sound and lasting government.

A satisfactory peace can never be made with that country.

BERGER'S CONVICTION.

Victor L. Berger professes to be surprised that he was convicted on the charges of disloyalty and sedition. That is doubtless for the stimulation of that accusation of which he has been the leader for right down deep in his heart he knew that the law was and he knew that he was doing everything but complying with it. The fact is that he had not only talked and acted in violation thereof, but he had set forth his views in print in such a manner that there could be no question as to what his attitude was from the way in which he urged opposition of the draft law it showed that he was working against the interests of the nation, so that it is impossible to give credit to his claim of surprise, unless he had figured that he had come so close to the violation without actually violating the espionage act that he would escape conviction.

No claim has been put forth that he was not given a full and fair trial for such would not be the case. He had been given every opportunity to prove his innocence but it was impossible to convince the jury that he was something which he was not, for they had the documentary evidence right before them which it was impossible to dodge or overlook.

Berger, as was to be expected, is to continue the fight. He will resort to an appeal and we doubt not that he will endeavor to abide by the election result which gave him a seat in congress. Whether he will be allowed to take it is another question which rests with the lower house of congress, but he is anticipating what ought to be done he maintains that he will be a candidate before any special election and regardless of the result of the trial, or possibly because of it he insists that he will be re-elected.

IMMIGRATION.

Immigration after peace has been concluded is a matter which has been given no little attention. There are even demands that more restrictive measures should be provided in order to protect this country against the coming in of large numbers of undesirable, it being felt that large numbers will seize their first opportunity to escape the conditions which they know they must face if they remain where they are and have to take part in the great struggle of reconstruction. This attitude of course does not reckon with the steps which may be taken by other countries to see that their people are kept at home for the very help which is needed from them.

Without regard for the post-war conditions, this country has made it more difficult for aliens to get into the United States. The literacy test is bound to block a large number but it is nevertheless evident that many of the most undesirable are able to get by that without the least trouble.

According to the department of labor there has been a decided decrease

THE MAN WHO TALKS

Do not assume this is to be a happy year for you! The year is not yours until you have compassed it. We none of us govern ourselves by the year, for the job proves difficult enough taken calmly by the day. Nearly every hour has its problems and provocations; and our provocations and temptations and our duties, are all difficult enough to meet and meet right if we confine our energies and our efforts to the hour of the day, rather than the days of the year. If safety requires each of us to look out for our step to be alert every ten seconds—why should not our conduct require to be guarded every minute rather than every day. We are none of us living perfect days, but the nearer perfection today is the happier the year is likely to be. Come. Self government calls for constant diligence.

MAJOR GENERAL BELL.

Like many others Major General J. Franklin Bell, whose death occurred this week, jumped into prominence in army circles as the result of the operations that were carried on in the Philippines. He was only a lieutenant when he was called upon to leave for service in those possessions but his rise was rapid because of the meritorious service which he performed. He was fearless and persistent in the pursuit of his task. He believed in personal leadership and conspicuous were the instances where he not only guided his men into action but where he underwent great risks in order to gain information which could not be secured in any other manner. He lived with Fustun in the methods he used in overcoming the tribesmen.

It was only proper therefore that he should have been recognized for his masterly work, that he should not only be promoted to the rank of major general but that his services should have been sought in connection with the important post of chief of staff of the army and in his last days as commander of the department of the east. But for the condition of his health there can be little question but what he would have been one of the commanders in the recent European war. He had the ability and the inclination and it was doubtless with great disappointment that he learned of his untimely death. He had been clearly demonstrated by his death at this time. But knowing that he was physically incapacitated for such a strenuous undertaking it was much easier for him to be contented to remain at home than it was for those who were in every way able to enter the foreign service and yet were forced to stay on this side in charge of cantonments.

SHEEP RAISING.

Recognizing that much the same situation existed there that does here when Governor Holcomb said in his inaugural message "I am confident our people would welcome effective laws which would permit successful sheep raising in this state." Massachusetts last year named a commission on sheep and agriculture to consider what that state needed in the way of new laws and changes in existing laws in order to encourage both.

That commission has investigated and held hearings and it has now presented its report in which it declares that while economic reasons caused the decline in sheep raising in this part of the country it is the stray dogs which are responsible in part for the fact that there has not been a revival in recent years. It believes that such authority as is now held by county, city or town dog officers should be supplemented by some statewide agency to brace up the dog law enforcement and that dogs should be kept at home from sunset to sunrise, and well inquired "Has he any right elsewhere?"

But further than that there should be established in every county department of sheep farms for the purpose of instructing the farmers as to the right kind of sheep to raise, and where they can be obtained at cost, it being felt that such would not be required after five years. It likewise endorses the idea of boys' and girls' sheep clubs and says that there are a million acres of land in that state available for sheep raising.

The problem in Massachusetts is no different than it is right here in Connecticut and it is perfectly evident that this commonwealth is bound to profit greatly from whatever encouragement it can give to the reestablishment of the sheep raising industry.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The man on the corner says: It's less homesome now that the work or right regulations have been cast aside.

From the waterlogged conditions of the war savings stamp fund, it would appear to be time to take down the thermometer.

It makes little difference what the weatherman does, there is always someone ready to hoot up and cry "When it rains it pours."

That million dollar fire in Pittsburg starts the year off in a way which doesn't promise to help any in the reduction of the country's annual fire loss.

With the reported arrest of Lenin by Trotsky it looks as if the bolsheviks were experiencing the trouble among its leaders which has long been expected.

It makes quite an addition to the corner when five states almost as a unit say Amen! to the action of their sister commonwealths on the federal amendment.

It should be remembered that help which is being asked for Russia will not go to those in that country who have \$400,000 to spend in this country for propaganda.

Now that Hindenburg is said to have arrived in Berlin, it looks as if it was time for him to establish a new line if Germany is going to be saved from the bolsheviks.

HOW MUSIC HELPS IN LIFE OF THE HOME

By Mrs. Jean N. Barrett

A few instances of what has been done in some homes through the power of music will tell you more than the mere advancement of theories. A little girl who was very miserable and managed to make mother or nurse most unhappy all through the process of undressing and getting into bed, would, would submit most gracefully to another song. My mother bids me sing and sing. With knot of fairest hair. And lace my bodice bane. For while, she says, all still and weep. While others are at play? An adaptation of Haydn's beautiful air.

Another mother learned to help her little boy work off some of his stormy fits of temper by going to the piano and playing some stormy, impetuous music. The boy did not know why this was done, but he felt the need of the music because it exactly fitted his own, and he would career around the room like a veritable wild rooster, until his emotion, which might have worked harm to himself and others, had spent itself in this harmless way. My sister remembers that even as a child she recognized this power of music to bring sweetness out of temper. She was very angry one day with a sense of some injustice done her, and in this mood started to play her beloved piano. As she did this she realized that if she played she would soon cease to be angry, and not being ready to give up her reason for moods, she rejected the gentle ministry of music and went to her room to nurse her unhappiness.

As an incident to heavy music she often heard used in the home. A little boy much afraid of the dark would go upstairs to a dark room for mother when she played a strong march for him as he went. If mothers could realize how many times a bit of music would do more for a child than even the kindest remembrance, they would have a flashing sword ready to smite the "mosses" song to drive away from the face of little daughter, and jolly jigs to bring laughing face and drooping spirits dancing; while a gay little march would often bring cheerful obedience in response to the request to pick up playthings or perform some other unwhimsical task, where a stern command would start an unhappy time for all concerned.

One of my childhood memories is of visiting in a country home where the hostess would often get up at the breakfast table and say "Come let us sing a little before we do the work." Had housekeeping, perhaps, but good housekeeping, for I have since learned that this use of music is resorted to when the morning atmosphere of the home threatened to be gloomy or quarrelsome; and the singing never failed to drive away the clouds. Of course, this use of music is most effective with a child who is either endowed by nature with the ability to respond to musical influence or has been trained in ear and heart to feel its effects.

A child who has always heard good music and has early learned to love

STORIES OF THE WAR

How Germans Think the Tampa Was Lost.

(Correspondence of The Associated Press.)—The claim that the United States ship Tampa was sunk by the German submarine U-53 is based upon assertions by the officers of the U-boat that they had sunk on the day the Tampa was lost an American escort vessel the name of which they did not know. The Tampa was sent to the bottom in the Bristol Channel off the English coast on September 26 with her whole company of 118 officers and men. No other American warship or escort vessel was sunk on that day.

The Germans claim to have sunk the Tampa was taken to London by Lieutenant F. L. Muller and Lieutenant H. Fulcher of the Ticonderoga who were taken prisoner on board the U-152 when that submarine sank their ship. During their imprisonment the U-152 lay alongside the U-53 in the Cattery and the two Americans talked with the officers and men of the U-53. It was then that they heard the German story. The Germans according to the two lieutenants assumed that the Tampa was their victim. American naval officers in London are inclined to think the Germans may be mistaken. On the other hand, the American officers are of the opinion that the Germans believe their aim had been true and believe they mistook the explosion of one of the depth-charges for the noise of the destruction of the Tampa.

The Tampa was out of sight of other American vessels when she was destroyed. She had left a convoy bound for France and soon afterward those

on board the vessels of the convoy heard a terrific explosion. Destroyers found wreckage on the boats and two unidentified men but no survivors. It has never been ascertained whether the Tampa was destroyed by torpedo, mine or internal explosion. The U-53 was commanded by Lieutenant Captain Hans Rose who sunk a number of merchant vessels off Nantucket. Rose claims that he sunk the American destroyer Jacob Jones.

OTHER VIEW POINTS

It might have been expected that the very thing other men place a value on in public display, Colonel Roosevelt would not. It is thoroughly characteristic of his private life that his funeral should be a quiet one.—New Haven Journal-Courier.

Gov. Marcus H. Holcomb makes the third governor of Connecticut to be elected at the age of 70. Only one, George Wyllys, was elected at a greater age. He was 72. The majority of the Connecticut governors were elected at about 50. This may be the era of young men but the older ones seem to get there just the same.—Waterbury Republican.

The five year plan of government control of the railroads is opposed by heads of the railroads. Here in New England railroad securities are of vital importance and on them hangs the financial structure of our very existence, yet some lawmakers are prone to view the situation in any but a thorough business manner. It is a long time in financial history that New England is concerned when every exertion should be made to count to protect the savings institutions.—Middlesex Press.

Some one has advanced the startling theory that there is nothing so monotonous as monotony.

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